

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 611

To provide for greater disclosure of and accountability for Federal  
Government travel.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 1993

Mr. KANJORSKI (for himself and Mr. SHAYS) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred jointly to the Committees on Government Operations,  
House Administration, and the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide for greater disclosure of and accountability for  
Federal Government travel.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Federal Travel Disclo-  
5       sure Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**  
7       **TRAVEL.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
9       sion of law, no Federal funds may be obligated or ex-  
10      pended for Federal Government travel, other than from

1 amounts specifically appropriated by law for such purpose.  
2 Except as provided in subsection (b), no Federal depart-  
3 ment, agency, or entity may expend funds for the travel  
4 expenses of any individual who is employed by any other  
5 Federal department, agency, or entity.

6 (b) REIMBURSABLE TRAVEL.—A Federal depart-  
7 ment, agency, or entity may expend funds for the travel  
8 expenses of an individual who is employed by another Fed-  
9 eral department, agency, or entity if it is reimbursed by  
10 the individual or the travel account of the individual's em-  
11 ploying department, agency, or entity.

12 **SEC. 3. TRAVEL SUPERVISORS.**

13 (a) EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT AGEN-  
14 CIES.—Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), the  
15 head of each department, agency, or entity of the Govern-  
16 ment shall designate a travel supervisor for that depart-  
17 ment, agency, or entity.

18 (b) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—Travel supervisors in  
19 the legislative branch shall be—

20 (1) Senators, Representatives, Delegates, and  
21 Resident Commissioners for their travel and travel  
22 by members of their personal staffs;

23 (2) committee chairmen for travel by members  
24 of their committees and committee staff;

1           (3) the Speaker of the House of Representa-  
2           tives and the minority leader of the House of Rep-  
3           resentatives, or their designees, for other employees  
4           of the House of Representatives or travel authorized  
5           by the full House of Representatives;

6           (4) the majority and minority leaders of the  
7           United States Senate, or their designees, for other  
8           employees of the United States Senate or travel au-  
9           thorized by the full United States Senate; and

10          (5) the head of each agency of the legislative  
11          branch, or their designee, in the case of employees  
12          of those agencies.

13          (c) JUDICIAL BRANCH.—Travel supervisors in the ju-  
14          dicial branch shall be—

15               (1) the Chief Justice of the United States Su-  
16               preme Court, or his designee, in the case of the Su-  
17               preme Court and its employees;

18               (2) the chief judge of each United States Cir-  
19               cuit Court of Appeals, or their designee, in the case  
20               of each Circuit Court of Appeals and its employees;

21               (3) the chief judge of each United States dis-  
22               trict or territorial court, or their designee, in the  
23               case of each District or Territorial Court and its em-  
24               ployees;

1           (4) the chief judges of the United States Claims  
2       Court, the United States Court of International  
3       Trade, the United States Court of Military Appeals,  
4       the United States Tax Court, the United States  
5       Court of Veterans Appeals, the District of Columbia  
6       Court of Appeals, and the District of Columbia Su-  
7       perior Court, or their designees, in the case of each  
8       of these courts and their employees; and

9           (5) the Director of the Administrative Office of  
10      the United States Courts, or his designee, in the  
11      case of all other employees of the judicial branch.

12   **SEC. 4. RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO FEDERAL GOVERN-**  
13                   **MENT TRAVEL.**

14      (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsections  
15   (b) and (c) all Federal Government travel shall be—

16           (1) approved in advance by the travel super-  
17      visor of the department, agency, or entity involved;

18           (2) accomplished by the most economical means  
19      conveniently possible; and

20           (3) accomplished by United States commercial  
21      carrier wherever possible, unless, as determined by  
22      the travel supervisor, an alternative means is more  
23      economical or necessary to achieve the goal of the  
24      mission.

1 (b) ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON LEGISLATIVE  
2 BRANCH FOREIGN TRAVEL.—All legislative branch for-  
3 eign travel shall be—

4 (1) approved in advance by recorded vote of the  
5 committee in the case of travel by a committee mem-  
6 ber or committee staff, or approved in advance by  
7 the appropriate travel supervisor in all other cases;

8 (2) accomplished by the most economical means  
9 conveniently possible; and

10 (3) accomplished by United States commercial  
11 carrier wherever possible, unless, as determined by  
12 the travel supervisor, an alternative means is more  
13 economical or necessary to achieve the goal of the  
14 mission.

15 (c) EXEMPTION FROM ADVANCE APPROVAL RE-  
16 QUIREMENT.—Except as otherwise provided by law or reg-  
17 ulation, advance approval shall not be required for travel  
18 which either—

19 (1) does not require an individual to spend the  
20 night away from their principal residence or place of  
21 employment; or

22 (2) is undertaken under emergency cir-  
23 cumstances as defined in written guidelines estab-  
24 lished by the appropriate travel supervisor.

1 **SEC. 5. GUIDELINES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
2 **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TRAVEL.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each travel supervisor shall, with  
4 respect to the department, agency, or entity involved—

5 (1) in order to prevent duplicative and unneces-  
6 sary trips, establish written guidelines for Federal  
7 Government travel; and

8 (2) not later than the end of each calendar  
9 quarter, file a report with respect to such travel dur-  
10 ing the preceding calendar quarter.

11 (b) REPORT CONTENTS.—Each report filed pursuant  
12 to subsection (a) shall, with respect to each trip—

13 (1) specify the purpose and agenda of the trip,  
14 including its duration and the places visited;

15 (2) provide the name and position of each em-  
16 ployee and any other person who accompanies the  
17 employee at Government expense;

18 (3) in the case of air transportation by other  
19 than United States commercial carrier, describe any  
20 determination under section 4(a)(3) or 4(b)(3);

21 (4) state the accomplishments of the trip; and

22 (5) state the amount of each category of ex-  
23 penses incurred for the trip, including separate cat-  
24 egories for travel, food, and lodging, or per diem for  
25 food and lodging.

1 (c) FILING.—Each report under this section shall be  
2 filed with—

3 (1) the Administrator of General Services in the  
4 case of executive branch or independent agency trav-  
5 el;

6 (2) the Clerk of the United States House of  
7 Representatives or the Secretary of the United  
8 States Senate in the case of legislative branch travel;  
9 and

10 (3) the Director of the Administrative Office of  
11 the United States Courts in the case of judicial  
12 branch travel.

13 **SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS.**

14 Not later than fifteen days after a report is filed  
15 under this Act, the Administrator of General Services, the  
16 Director of the Administrative Office of the United States  
17 Courts, the Clerk of the House of Representatives, or the  
18 Secretary of the Senate, as applicable, shall—

19 (1) make the report available for public inspec-  
20 tion; and

21 (2) provide copies of the report to any person,  
22 either upon payment of a fee sufficient to cover the  
23 expense of reproduction and mailing (other than any  
24 salary expense) or at a lesser fee if, determined by  
25 the Administrator, Director, Clerk, or Secretary, as

1 applicable, such lesser fee is in the public interest.  
2 At the end of the six-year period after the date of  
3 filing, each report shall be destroyed unless such re-  
4 port is required in an ongoing investigation.

5 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

6 As used in this Act—

7 (1) the term “Federal Government travel”  
8 means travel by any employee (including any elected  
9 or appointed officer) of the United States;

10 (2) the term “legislative branch travel” means  
11 travel by a Senator or Representative in, or a Dele-  
12 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress or  
13 by an employee (including an elected officer) of the  
14 Senate or the House of Representatives or any agen-  
15 cy of the legislative branch;

16 (3) the term “agency of the legislative branch”  
17 means the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the  
18 Botanic Garden, the General Accounting Office, the  
19 Government Printing Office, the Library of Con-  
20 gress, the Office of Technology Assessment, the  
21 Congressional Budget Office, and any other entity in  
22 the legislative branch;

23 (4) the term “foreign travel” means travel out-  
24 side the United States; and



1           (5) the term “United States”, where used in a  
2           geographical sense, means the States of the United  
3           States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth  
4           of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions  
5           of the United States.

6 **SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

7           This Act shall take effect one hundred and eighty  
8           days after the date of enactment of this Act.

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